

Fluency Levels in STARI

What are the levels in the fluency materials?

Level A is third grade reading level, lexile 500-590, Level B is fourth grade, lexile 600-690, Level C is fifth grade, lexile 700-790, and Level D is sixth grade, lexile 800-890. Within each level, passages start at the easier end of the lexile range and gradually become more challenging.

How should I assign students to levels?

Students should work at a comfortable level of difficulty—their independent reading level. This will vary for individuals in your STARI class. In introducing fluency, students worked on a B passage. Students' performance on "What's Your Birth Order?" can help in level placement. Also consider test scores and other information on students' reading levels.

Fluency A: Students who read the practice B passage slowly (below 100 WPM) and with frequent word reading errors can be assigned to the A level. You can count word reading errors on the fingers of one hand while the student is reading out loud for a minute. More than 5-7 suggests the B passage is too hard. If the student is comprehending poorly with level B, that is another sign it is best to assign a student to A.

Fluency B: Students who read the practice B passage in the 100-110 WPM+ range with only a couple of word reading errors can work with the B level passages. Check that comprehension is good, too.

Fluency C or D: Students who read the practice B passage at 120 WPM or greater and with almost no errors, can be assigned to the C or D fluency passages. Check if the students can also answer the comprehension questions correctly.

If appropriate placement initially is not clear, assign a student to a lower fluency level and then listen and observe.